

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the third full paragraph beginning on page 6, line 13 with the following rewritten paragraph.

The incoming multi-programme transport stream is received at terminal 102, passing through an MPEG delay 104 to a remultiplexer 106. This provides a multi-programme transport stream output at terminal ~~16~~108. Where no local opt-out is in force, the input multi-programme transport stream (MPTS) passes seamlessly to the output 108, subject only to a delay.

Please replace the third full paragraph beginning at page 7, line 9 with the following rewritten paragraph.

The video coder 202 is arranged to provide a packet output when it receives a packet request. The corresponding output from the packet detector 200 will normally provide such requests so that the video coder 202 will provide packets which are aligned with those packets in the reference transport stream which correspond with the video elementary stream of the tracked programme. To enable the encoder to function in the absence of a reference transport stream input, a stand-alone packet request generator ~~210~~ is provided. This has a clock-timing reference input and a further input which sets the desired bit-rates for the various elementary streams. The packet request generator provides an output for each of the elementary streams and there is a notional ganged switch arrangement ~~212~~ which enables the elementary stream coders to be locked either to the incoming reference transport stream or to free run in a stand-alone mode under control of the stand-alone packet request generator.

Please replace the first full paragraph beginning at page 9, line 8 with the following rewritten paragraph.

The output from the video and audio mixer 412 passes to the coder 416. As with the previous embodiment, this ~~decoder~~ coder also receives as a reference input the multi-programme transport stream input. Additionally, because the decoder 410 is of the type arranged to provide an information bus output, the coder 416 can utilise both the transport stream reference input and the information bus to ensure that the packets which are output by

the coder 416 are capable of seamless remuxing in multiplexer 406 with the remaining packets of the multi-programme transport stream.

Please insert the following abstract as a separate sheet:

To enable a single programme in a multiple programme MPEG transport stream (MPTS) to be replaced seamlessly by a locally generated programme, the local coder received the MPTS as a reference signal and outputs transport packets in alignment with the packets of the programme to be replaced. Timing and other packet parameters are also copied.